

Appl. No. 10/506,840
Amendment and/or Response
Reply to Office action of 6 April 2006

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REMARKS / DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Claims 14-20 are newly added.

The applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for priority and receipt of certified copies of all the priority document(s), and for finding the drawings acceptable.

Dependent claims are amended for non-statutory reasons: to correct one or more informalities, remove figure label number(s), and/or to replace European-style claim phraseology with American-style claim language. No new matter is added.

A new dependent claim is added to at least partially restore the original range of claims that existed before multiple dependencies were removed in the preliminary amendment. No new matter is added.

The Office action objects to the Title, and the Examiner has suggested a replacement title. The Title is correspondingly amended herein.

The Office action rejects claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claim 11 is amended to recite that the average path length is substantially equal for all picture elements. This limitation finds support at page 12, lines 22-26 of the applicant's specification.

The Office action rejects claims 1-5 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Stanley (USP 4,215,293). The applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1, upon which each of claims 2-14 depends, claims a display device that includes display screen having a number of picture elements, an electron beam guide for guiding the electron beam along a beam path towards a predetermined picture element of the display screen, wherein the electron beam guide comprises a two-dimensional slalom guide arranged in rows and columns that define an array of cells opposite the picture elements.

Stanley fails to teach a two-dimensional slalom guide arranged in rows and columns that define an array of cells opposite the picture elements.

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As acknowledged by the Examiner, Stanley's electrodes 44, 47, and 48 guide the electrons to the vertical channels for subsequent row-by-row scanning. These electrodes are offset from the display area, and do not form an array of cell opposite the picture elements.

Because Stanley fails to teach a two-dimensional slalom guide arranged in rows and columns that define an array of cells opposite the picture elements, as specifically claimed in claim 1, the applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1-5 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Stanley.

The Office action rejects claims 12-13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Stanley and Knox et al. (USP 5,990,609, hereinafter Knox). The applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

In this rejection, the Office action relies upon Stanley for teaching the elements of claim 1, upon which claims 12 and 13 depend. As noted above, Stanley fails to teach a two-dimensional slalom guide arranged in rows and columns that define an array of cells opposite the picture elements, and Knox does not cure this deficiency.

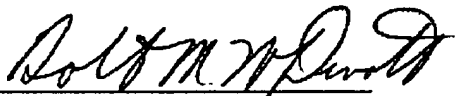
Because neither Stanley nor Knox teaches or suggests a two-dimensional slalom guide arranged in rows and columns that define an array of cells opposite the picture elements, as specifically claimed in claim 1, the applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection of claims 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Stanley and Knox.

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In view of the foregoing, the applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection(s) and/or rejection(s) of record, allow all the pending claims, and find the application in condition for allowance. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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